

Subject: CDA District Digest: January 2018
From: California Downtown Association <info@californiadowntown.com>
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In This Issue

[President's Poll](#)
[Upcoming Conference](#)
[CDA Policy Corner](#)
[In the News](#)

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January 2018

PRESIDENT'S POLL

I look forward to seeing many of you at the **West Coast Urban District Forum** in Walnut Creek this March. What are you most looking forward to at CDA's annual conference?



[TAKE THE SURVEY!](#)



Steven Welliver
Deputy Chief Executive
Downtown Santa Monica, Inc.
steven@downtownsm.com

WEST COAST URBAN DISTRICT FORUM

Join Walnut Creek Downtown, California Downtown Association and IDA for the [West Coast Urban District Forum](#) **March 13-15, 2018!** Experts will share best practices on enhancing downtown quality of life and cultivating the next generation of leaders.

Registration is now open. **Take advantage of the early bird rate of \$345 and save \$100 by registering before February 15!** Visit the event [website](#) for more information and to register today.

Joseph Mariani
Hollywood Entertainment
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Submit News

Have a news story or a project you'd like to highlight in the CDA *District Digest*?

[E-mail us today!](#)

CDA Members

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Downtown Association of Santa Cruz
Downtown Berkeley Association
Downtown Long Beach Alliance
Downtown Los Angeles
Downtown Modesto Partnership
Downtown Oakland

Breakout Sessions Announced!

Join us in exploring topics such as *Growth Without Gridlock; Social Media: How to Tell the Story of a Place in Eight Seconds*; and *Downtown and the Green Rush Economy*. View the [preliminary program](#) online now.



Pre-conference Tour Added!

Policies and Partnerships: Fostering Growth and Harnessing Potential in Walnut Creek Walking Tour

Tuesday, March 13th
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Cost: \$25

Join City staff on a walking tour of downtown Walnut Creek where guiding policies and successful partnerships have created opportunities, attracted investment to promote Walnut Creek as a regional leader with a strong local economy, and generated a wealth of community investment.

Book Your Hotel Room!

The Walnut Creek Marriott, located at 2355 North Main Street, is offering a rate of \$179/night for a standard room. Parking is available onsite during the day for \$10 and \$23 overnight. Rooms are also available at the Renaissance ClubSport Walnut Creek Hotel, located at 2805 Jones Road, for a rate of \$189/night for a standard room.

Please book your room by Friday, February 23, 2018 at either hotel. More booking information is on our [website](#).

Get social! What questions will you come ready to ask? Share them on [Twitter](#) using #WCUDF18.

CDA POLICY CORNER

Lawmakers Kill Rent Control Bill in Contentious Committee Hearing

California lawmakers shelved a bill last week that would have repealed the Costa-Hawkins Act and expanded local rent control ordinances by allowing local jurisdictions to place caps on the price of rents on apartment and other rental properties. Assemblyman Bloom's AB 1506 fell just one vote shy of approval in the Assembly Housing Committee after a marathon 4 hour hearing that saw nearly one thousand individuals testify in support or opposition.

Association/ Lake Merritt
Uptown District Association
Downtown Oxnard Merchants
Association
Downtown Pomona Owners
Association
Downtown Roseville
Partnership
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Downtown Santa Monica, Inc.
Downtown Vacaville BID
Downtown Ventura Partners
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Figueroa Corridor Partnership
Gateway to LA Airport
Business District
Gilroy Economic Development
Hollywood Property Owners
Alliance
Ironsmith, Inc.
LA Downtown Industrial District
BID
LA Fashion District BID
MJM Management Group
North Tahoe Business
Association
Old Pasadena Management
District
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Association
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Partnership
San Jose Downtown
Association
San Luis Obispo Downtown
Association
South Park BID
The Downtown Burbank
Partnership
The Placemaking Group
The River District
Tracy City Center Association
Tulare Downtown Association
Ukiah Main Street Program
Union Square BID
Urban Place Consulting Group,
Inc.
Vista Village Business
Association
Walnut Creek Downtown
Business Association
Westwood Village Improvement
Association
Wilshire Center Business
Improvement District

The California Downtown Association joined a coalition that included multi-family developers, independent business groups, and the Realtors in opposition to AB 1506. Our coalition effectively argued that repealing the Costa-Hawkins Act would discourage investment in the existing rental stock and stymie new construction opportunities for rental units thereby worsening the state's housing shortage.

CDA would like to thank the members of the Assembly Housing Committee who supported CDA's position by voting "no" or abstaining on the bill. They are:

- Assemblyman Jim Wood (D-Healdsburg)
- Assemblyman Marc Steinorth (R-Rancho Cucamonga)
- Assemblyman Ed Chau (D-Arcadia)
- Assemblyman Steven Choi (R-Irvine)

Attention now focuses on the pending ballot measure that also seeks to repeal the Costa-Hawkins Act and allow local jurisdictions to impose rent control ordinances. The initiative was cleared by the Secretary of State for signature collection and the sponsors must collect 366,000 valid signatures by June, 2018 in order to qualify for the November general election. The sponsors appear to be well-funded, so we do expect the initiative to qualify. Given this reality we will continue to monitor this issue should the proponents and opponents seek a legislative compromise this year that would avoid a costly statewide ballot measure fight.

Jason Bryant
Bryant Government Affairs
January 2018 Legislative Update

IN THE NEWS

New Bay Area Housing Trend: Living in the Backyard

The Mercury News

The walls weren't even up yet on the granny flat Limei Huang is building in her San Jose backyard when people started lining up...

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Metro Plans to Roll Out New Smartphone Payment App Later this Year

Curbed Los Angeles

Metro riders may soon have a new way to pay for trips on Los Angeles trains, buses, and shuttles: through a smartphone app.

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Is a Public Subsidy in the Works for a Sacramento Soccer Stadium?

The Sacramento Bees

Sacramento city leaders and the local ownership group seeking an expansion spot in Major League Soccer are discussing public...

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Despite Merry Holidays, Retailers Face Challenges in 2018

SFGate.com

Retailers are riding high after ebullient U.S. consumers shopped at the healthiest pace in more than a decade over the holiday season.

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California Wildfires Spark Issues of Bilingual Emergency Communications

American City & Country

As wildfires continue to sweep across California, issues concerning emergency communications with the Spanish-speaking...

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A Look at Business in Long Beach 2017

The Grunion

The cranes rising above Long Beach's skyline say it all.

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JUMP Bikes Cleared to Launch

StreetsBlogSF

This week, half a year after the city started offering a permit program for dockless bike share, the SFMTA issued its first permit for a...

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Three California housing issues to watch in 2018

Los Angeles Times

Rising rents and home prices forced California's housing crisis to the front of Gov. Jerry Brown's and lawmakers' agenda in 2017.

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With Gas Taxes in Peril, More States Study Alternatives

Governing

The idea of charging drivers for the miles they drive instead of the gas they burn is not new. But states are still sorting out how it...

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California Needs a Housing-First Agenda: My 2018 Housing Package

Art + marketing

Last year, California began a pivot from a housing-last policy to a housing-first policy.

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 Spread the Word

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Editor:

Steven Welliver
President, CDA

Allison Shashok
Marketing & Communications Manager, IDA

Do you have your ear to the ground when it comes to the latest downtown news in your region?
To submit news to be considered for inclusion in the newsletter, please contact Allison Shashok at allison@downtown.org.

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